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# SONIC

## THE HEDGEHOG

### IMPOSTER SYNDROME



SEGA®



# SONIC™

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# IMPOSTER SYNDROME

STORY **IAN FLYNN**

ART **THOMAS ROTH LISBERGER**

**AARON HAMMERSTROM** (PAGES 8-12)

INKS **MATT FROESE** (PAGES 8-12)

COLORS **VALENTINA PINTO**

LETTERS **SHAWN LEE**

ASSISTANT EDITOR **RILEY FARMER**

EDITOR **DAVID MARIOTTE**



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FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

"OPERATION: REMASTER" IS MOVING INTO ITS FINAL TESTING STAGES.

WITH THIS, I WILL FINALLY BE ABLE TO BREAK WHAT I AFFECTIONATELY CALL "THE SONIC CYCLE."

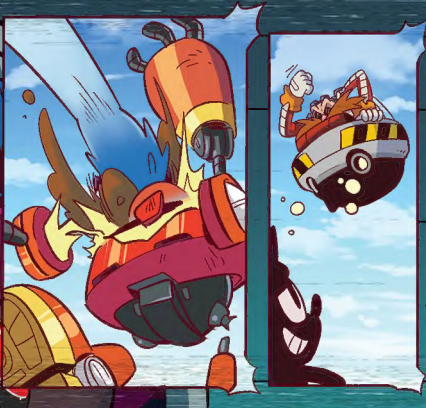
FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

TO WIT: DR. EGGMAN STAGES A BOLD PLAN TO RESHAPE THE WORLD...



FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

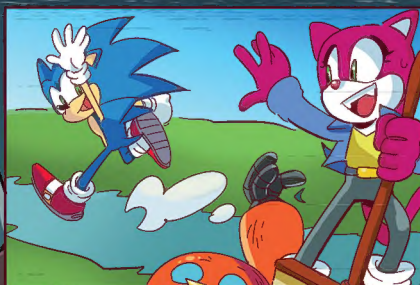
...SONIC ARRIVES, SOMETIMES WITH HIS MENAGERIE OF FRIENDS, TO RUIN EVERYTHING...



FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

...UNTIL FINALLY THE DAY IS "SAVED." THE GENERAL POPULACE REBUILDS AND RETURNS TO THEIR REGULAR LIVES.

NO EVOLUTION. NO VISION. NO FUTURE.





FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

THANKFULLY, I'M HERE. STEP ONE OF "OPERATION: REMASTER" WILL BE TO REMOVE DR. EGGMAN FROM PLAY.



HE IS A REVOLUTIONARY, A VISIONARY, AND GROOMS A FINE MUSTACHE. BUT HE GETS TUNNEL-VISION WHEN IT COMES TO SONIC.

I HAVE STUDIED UNDER THE MASTER, SEEN HIS FEW SHORT-COMINGS, AND PERFECTED HIS TECHNIQUE.

HE'LL THANK ME IN THE END. I'M SURE OF IT.

FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

STEP TWO: REPLACE THE SO-CALLED "HEROES" WHO STAND IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS.

THE GENERAL POPULACE RELIES ON THEM FAR TOO MUCH, BUT IT'S FAR SIMPLER TO REPLACE A FEW CELEBRITIES THAN CHANGE SOCIETY.



BY CONTROLLING THE "HERO-VERSUS-VILLAIN" DYNAMIC, I WILL BE ABLE TO SHAPE THE WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE WITH THE VERY THEATRICS THEY'VE BECOME SO ACCUSTOMED TO.

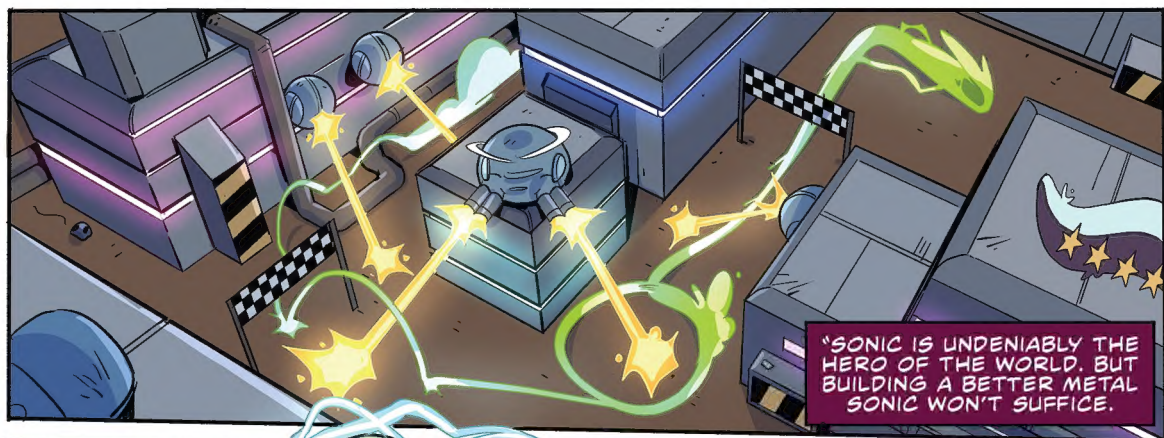
FILE: 1M9-SYM-001

IT'S BEEN AN ARDUOUS JOURNEY TO GATHER AND ASSEMBLE ALL THE NECESSARY COMPONENTS TO MAKE THIS PLAN WORK.



BUT NOW, AT LONG LAST... THEY'RE READY!





"SONIC IS UNDENIABLY THE HERO OF THE WORLD. BUT BUILDING A BETTER METAL SONIC WON'T SUFFICE."



"SONIC IS MORE THAN JUST RAW POWER. HE'S ABOUT STYLE--ATTITUDE."

"I NEED THAT INDOMITABLE SPIRIT, THAT ROGUE CHARM. HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS A LIABILITY AS MUCH AS IT'S A BOON..."



"...SURGE WILL REPLACE HIM, AND I WILL KEEP THE BRAVADO ON A LEASH."

YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD TOUCH ME? PATHETIC!



"AS PREVIOUSLY NOTED, THERE ARE 'DESIGN FLAWS' INHERENT IN SONIC."



CHEAP SHOT FOR A CHEAP BOT!

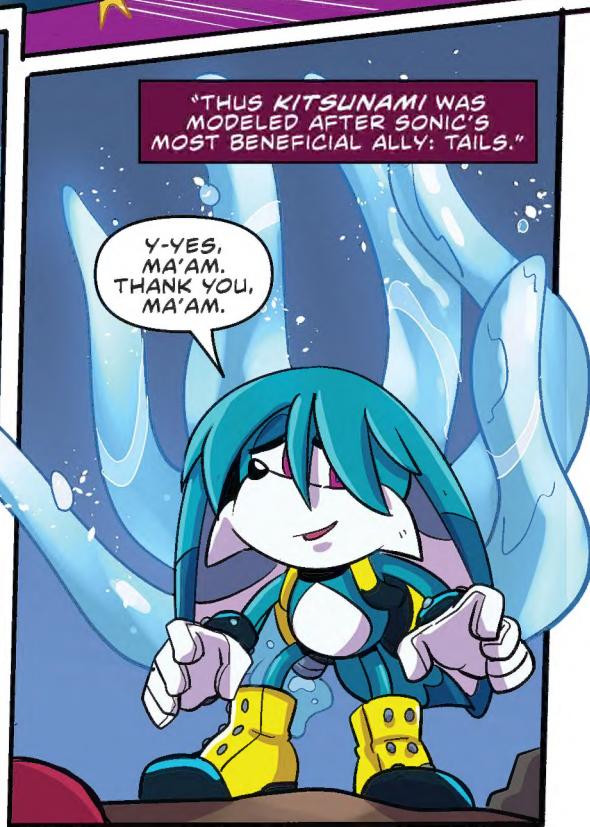
"SURGE NEEDS A SUPPORT UNIT TO MAKE UP FOR HER SHORT-COMINGS. AN ANALYTICAL BALANCE TO THE BRASHNESS; SOMEONE TO LOOK BEFORE SHE LEAPS."

NICE ASSIST, KID. DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR HEAD.

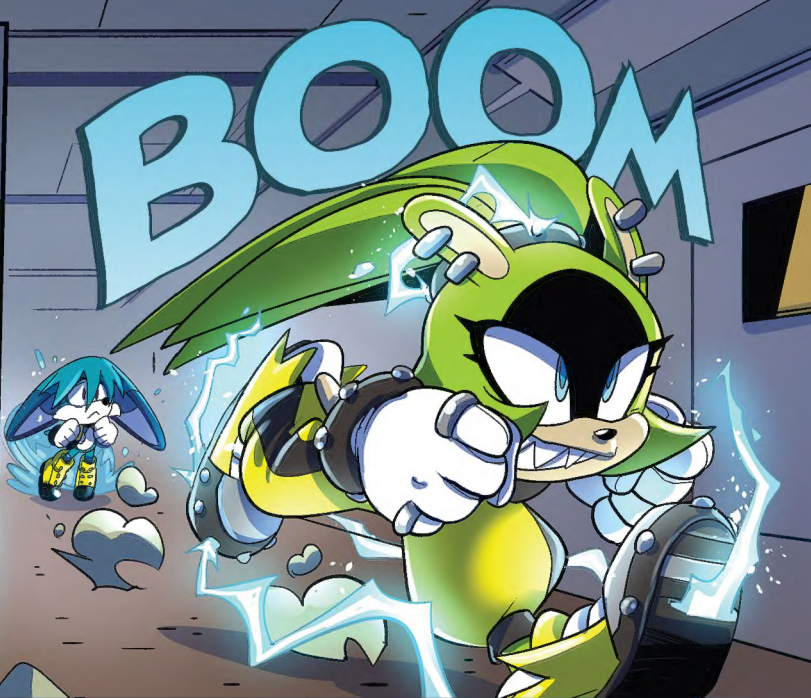


"THUS KITSUNAMI WAS MODELED AFTER SONIC'S MOST BENEFICIAL ALLY: TAILS."

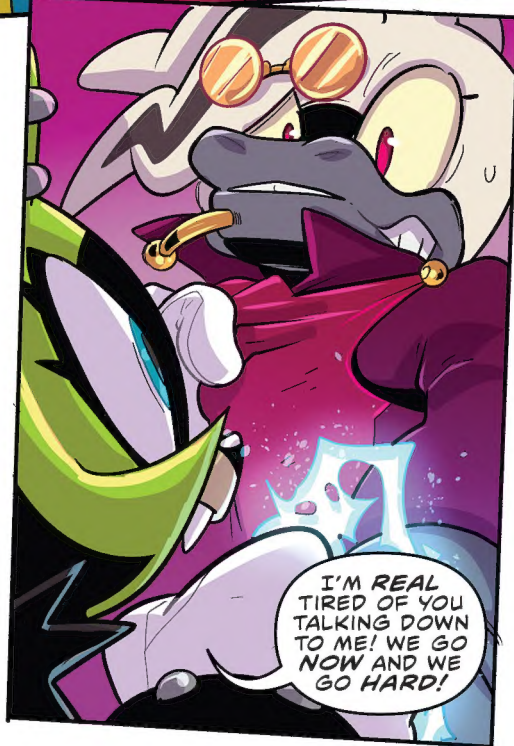
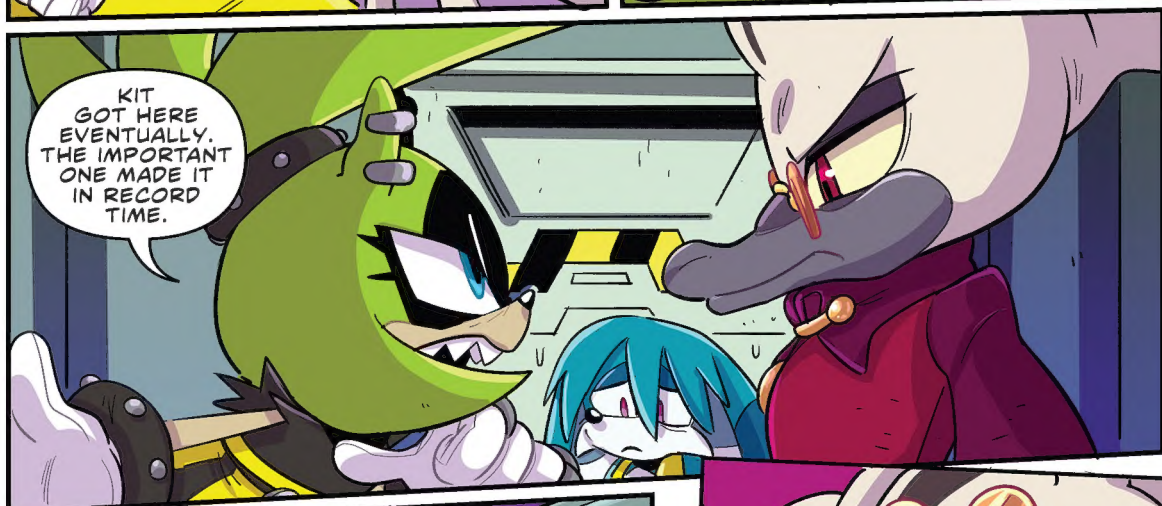
Y-YES, MA'AM. THANK YOU, MA'AM.







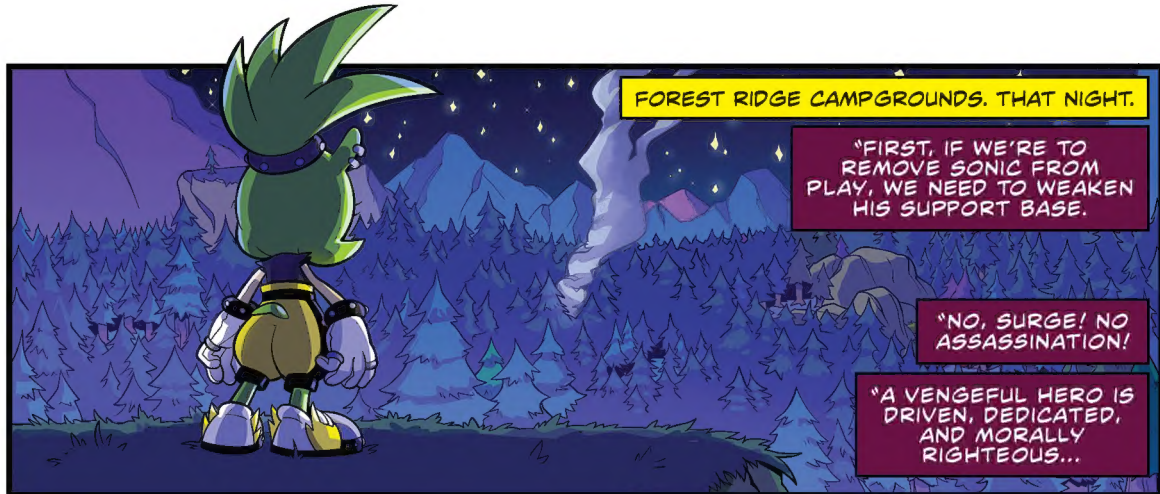












FOREST RIDGE CAMPGROUNDS. THAT NIGHT.

"FIRST, IF WE'RE TO REMOVE SONIC FROM PLAY, WE NEED TO WEAKEN HIS SUPPORT BASE.

"NO, SURGE! NO ASSASSINATION!

"A VENGEFUL HERO IS DRIVEN, DEDICATED, AND MORALLY RIGHTEOUS...



"...BUT A HERO SUFFERING FROM A TRAGIC LOSS FROM A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT? THAT ONE'S BROKEN AND MOROSE."

LET'S SEE SONIC SAVE ALL YOU HAPPY CAMPERS FROM THIS.





CENTRAL CITY. DAYS LATER.

"SECONDLY, WHILE I KNOW HOW POWERFUL YOU ARE, I NEED TO ASSESS YOUR FINESSE."

"OUR FIRST REAL MISSION MUST BE CLANDESTINE. SO I WANT YOU TO SOW CHAOS AND NOT GET CAUGHT."

LOOK AT 'EM. ACTING LIKE THEY DON'T HAVE A CARE IN THE WORLD. DIDN'T THE ZOMBOTS TEAR THIS CITY APART NOT TOO LONG AGO?\*

THE RESTORATION HELPED THEM REBUILD. I-I-I THINK THEY JUST WANT TO BE... HAPPY...?

\*STH#21

SUCKS TO BE THEM, 'CUZ I AIM TO MISBEHAVE.

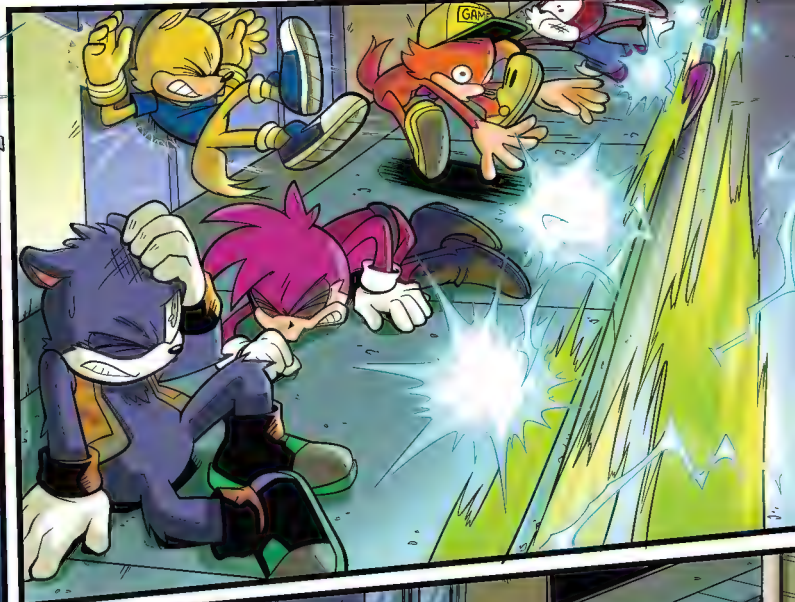
I CAN USE MY HYDRO-COIL TAILS TO REACH UNDERGROUND, ACCESS AND MANIPULATE THE WIRING, AND THROW THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND POWER GRIDS INTO DISARRAY!

UH-HUH. YOU HAVE FUN WITH THAT.

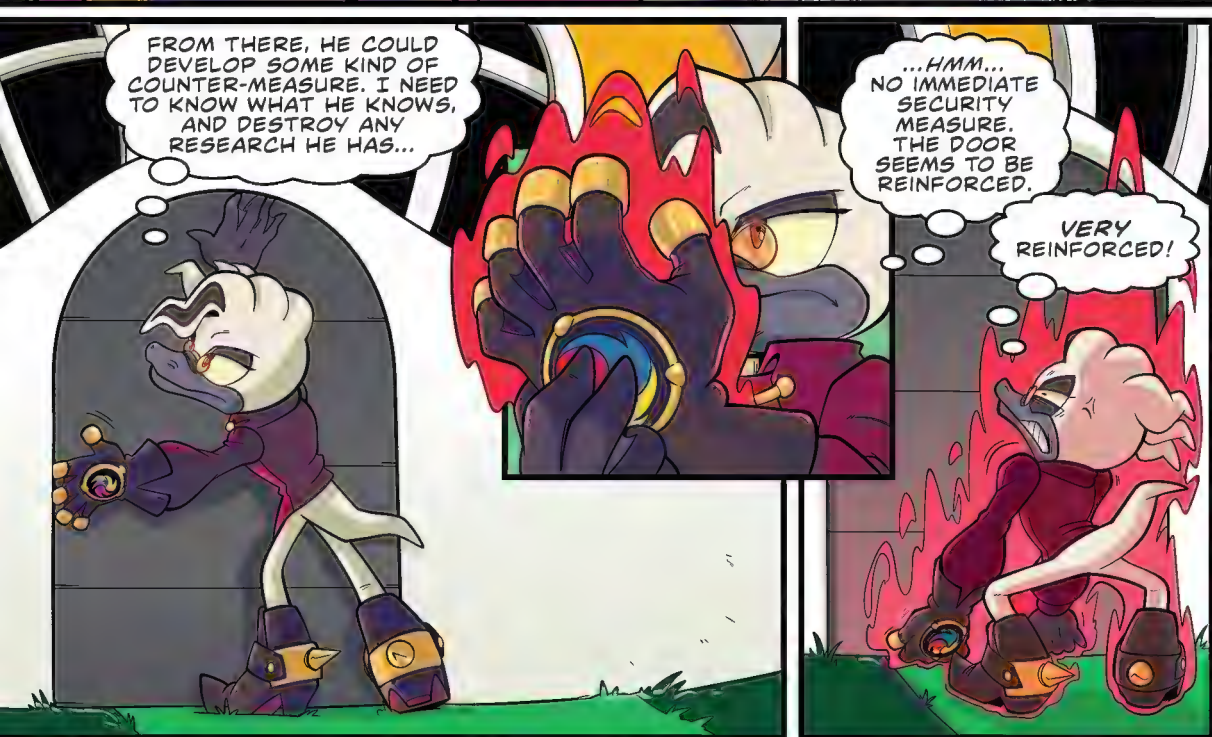
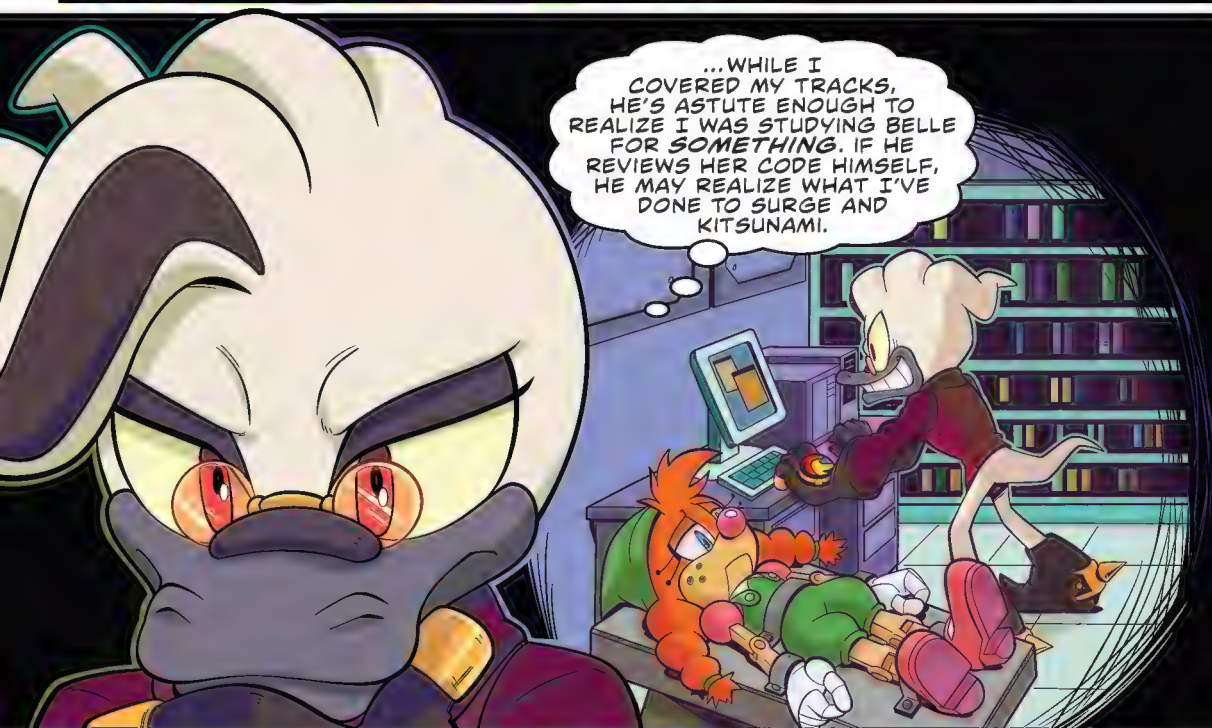
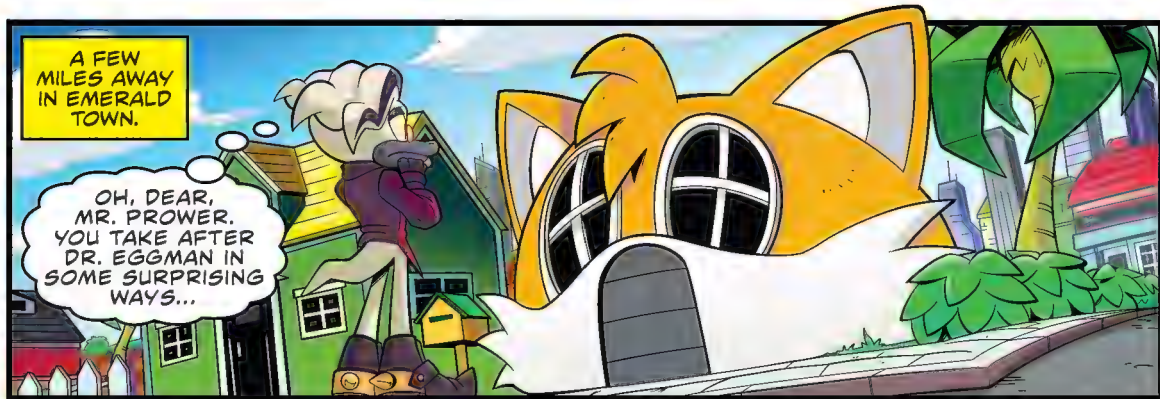
I'MMA GO FAST!

W-WELL... YES... THERE'S THAT, TOO...

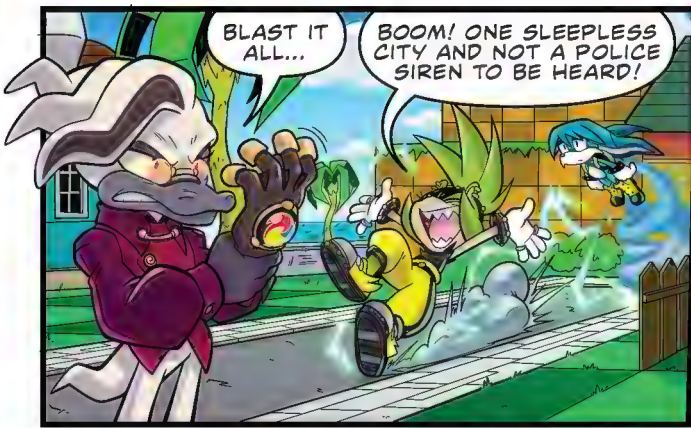














STARLINE BASE  
SIGMA. LATER.

CAREER  
CRIMINALS  
ASSAULT  
CENTRAL CITY

HEROES SAVE  
CAMPERS FROM **WILDFIRE**



WE  
FAILED...

HEY! WE  
DIDN'T GET  
CAUGHT! THAT  
WAS THE POINT!

I WANTED TO  
DEAL WITH SONIC'S  
GAL PALS DIRECTLY.  
*SOMEBODY* WANTED  
TO TRUST A WALL OF  
STUPID FLAME.

A CLOSE CALL  
FOR THEM ISN'T ANY  
BETTER OR WORSE  
THAN DR. EGGMAN'S  
TRACK RECORD.

WHATEVER.  
WE DID GOOD,  
RIGHT?

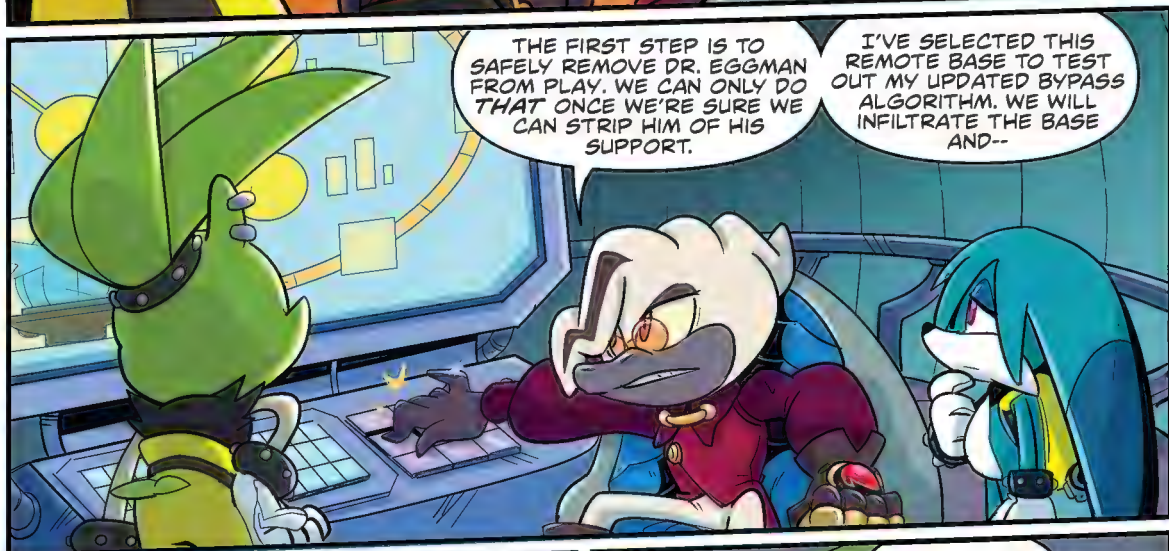
YOU DID  
"WELL."  
AND SO NOW  
IT'S FINALLY  
TIME...

AW,  
YEAH!

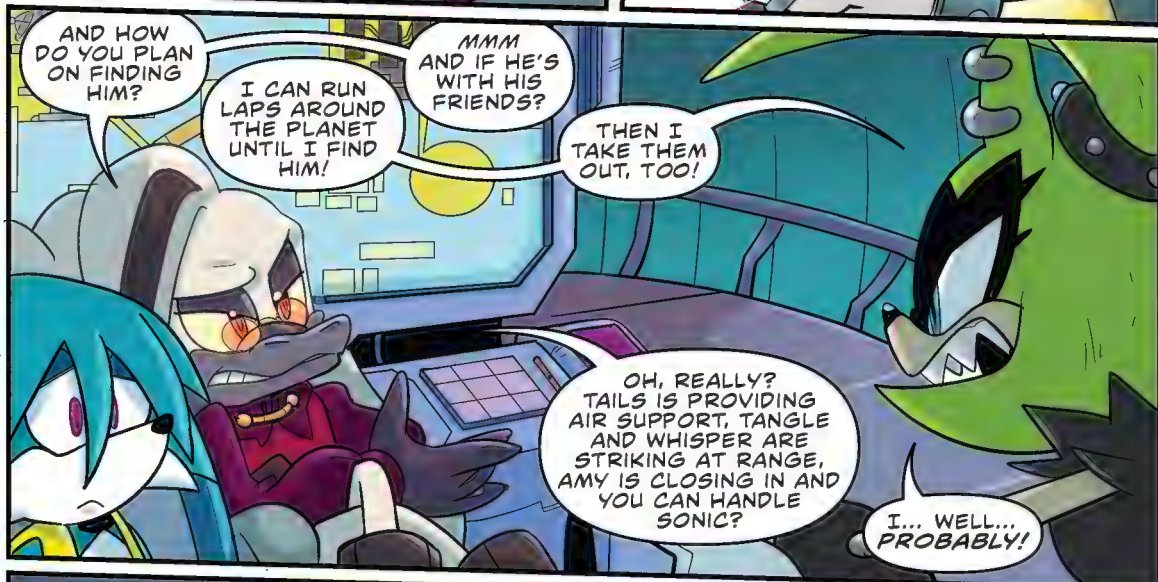
...FOR  
THE FINAL  
TEST!

OH,  
COME  
ON!





























YOU WANTED TO COMPLETE ONE MORE OPTIMIZATION TEST. I WANTED TO PUSH AHEAD INTO THE MAIN MISSION. TEMPER FLARED AND... WELL, HERE WE ARE.

I'M SORRY. YOU WERE RIGHT. WE'LL GO AHEAD WITH THE FINAL TESTING PHASE IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT.



HUH. THAT SOUND RIGHT TO YOU?

I DO WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE SAFE, MA'AM.

ALL RIGHT THEN. SURE. WE'LL... UH... DO THE TEST. WHAT'S THE PLAN?



THE FIRST STEP IS TO SAFELY REMOVE DR. EGGMAN FROM PLAY. WE CAN ONLY DO THAT ONCE WE'RE SURE WE CAN STRIP HIM OF HIS SUPPORT.

I'VE SELECTED THIS REMOTE BASE TO TEST OUT MY UPDATED BYPASS ALGORITHM. WE WILL INFILTRATE THE BASE AND THEN...

**NEXT TIME:  
STRESS TEST!**





**NEXT MONTH**





# SONIC

# LETTERS SQUAD

## IMPOSTER SYNDROME

*Hello, Imposters! Thank you for joining Ian Flynn, Thomas Rothlisberger, Aaron Hammerstrom, Matt Froese, Valentina Pinto, and Shawn Lee for the very first issue of Imposter Syndrome! Surge and Kit have been getting lots of love since they were announced, so let's check out your art featuring the devious duo!*

*Please don't forget to send your art and letters to [letters@idwpublishing.com](mailto:letters@idwpublishing.com), and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, a surge of tests leaves the imposters in need of a repair kit!*



ART BY  
KYMANI









**ART MAURO FONSECA COLORS JOANA LAFUENTE**





**ART THOMAS ROTH LISBERGER** **COLORS VALENTINA PINTO**





**ART EVAN STANLEY**



# ON YOUR MARKS. GET SET. **GO!**



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EVAN STANLEY • ADAM BRYCE THOMAS  
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